General Assembly

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Agenda item 114 (*d*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.9 and Add.1)*]

63/11. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its resolutions 55/211 of 20 December 2000, 57/34 of 21 November 2002, 59/259 of 23 December 2004 and 61/4 of 20 October 2006 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security of 9 December 1994,[1]

Recognizing that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 61/4,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation

[1] Resolution 49/57, annex.

[2] A/63/228-S/2008/531 and Corr.1, sect. II.D.

Organization on the occasion of the Fifteenth Anniversary Summit of the Organization, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 25 June 2007;

2. *Reiterates* the conviction that multilateral economic cooperation contributes to enhancing peace, stability and security to the benefit of the Black Sea region;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts towards the completion of the process of reforms in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization envisaged in the Bucharest statement of 26 April 2006, issued by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Organization, thus contributing to the enhancement of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Organization, as well as its role in the economic and social development of its member States;

4. *Takes note* of the resolve of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to foster a pragmatic and project- and results-oriented approach in the spheres of common interest for its member States, where improved regional cooperation could create synergies and increase the efficiency of resources used;

5. *Welcomes* the activities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in fields such as energy, transport, institutional reform and good governance, trade and economic development, banking and finance, communications, agriculture and agro-industry, health care and pharmaceuticals, environmental protection, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among Customs services, and combating organized crime and illicit trafficking in drugs, weapons and radioactive material, acts of terrorism and illegal migration, and in other related areas;

6. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to elaborate and realize concrete joint regional projects, particularly in the fields of energy and transport, which will contribute to the development of the Euro-Asian transport links;

7. *Takes note*, within this framework, of the signing in Belgrade on 19 April 2007 of the memorandum of understanding for the coordinated development of the Black Sea Ring Highway and the memorandum of understanding on the development of the Motorways of the Sea at the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization region;

8. *Welcomes* the financing of projects by the Project Development Fund of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the benefit of the sustainable development of the Black Sea region;

9. *Appeals* for greater cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and international financial institutions in co-financing feasibility and pre-feasibility studies of the projects in the wider Black Sea area;

10. *Takes note* of the positive contributions of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, the Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the wider Black Sea area;

11. *Also takes note* of the enhanced cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the working contacts of the Black Sea Economic

Cooperation Organization with the World Bank, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization, aimed at promoting the sustainable development of the region of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

12. *Welcomes* the multifaceted and fruitful cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe, especially in the area of transport, within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed between the two organizations on 2 July 2001;

13. *Also welcomes* the launching of the Black Sea Trade and Investment Promotion Programme, the first partnership project between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, on 1 December 2006,[3] and the signing of the cooperation agreement between the two organizations in Istanbul on 28 June 2007;

14. *Takes note* of the establishment of cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the International Centre for Hydrogen Energy Technologies of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, with emphasis placed on energy and environment;

15. *Also takes note* of the increased cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and, within this framework, welcomes the launching on 1 September 2007 of the joint Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization-United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime project on strengthening the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons in the Black Sea region;

16. *Acknowledges* the commitment of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to contributing to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals at national, regional and global levels;

17. *Takes note* of the intensified cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the European Union, and supports the efforts of the Organization to take concrete steps to advance this cooperation in line with the provisions of the Declaration of 14 February 2008 on a Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization-European Union Enhanced Relationship, issued by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Organization;

18. *Also takes note* of the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives;

19. *Invites* the Secretary-General to strengthen dialogue with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the two secretariats;

20. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue programmes with the Organization and its associated institutions for the achievement of their objectives;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

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[3] Available from www.undpforblacksea.org.

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

37th plenary meeting
3 November 2008